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Anti-HK testimony

TESTIMONY FOR THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

RE: Nomination of Dr. Henry A. Kissinger as U.S. Secretary of State

Delivered by Bronson P. Clark, Executive Secretary,

American Friends Service Committee

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
160 North 15th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

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and repressive regimes. Americans have learned with dismay about practices of the Park government in South Korea and the Marcos government in the Philippines. As long as these regimes draw support from our policies, how can we claim to be a people that can be counted on to support independence and self-determination? We are increasingly seen abroad, as well as by some critics at home, as the **new imperialists** ready to use or support military intervention in an effort to **preserve the brand of governments** we favor.

Just now, in Chile, with its record of 42 uninterrupted years of democratically-elected administration, the elected government has been crushed by the Armed Forces and the President of that country lies dead. But from the Administration and the Secretary of State-designate there has been no word deploring the violent interruption of a constitutional government or offering sympathy to the Chilean people on the death of their President, Allende. There seems to be a policy of silence, if nothing more, as the number of democratically elected regimes in Latin America drop down to a total of four.

I would respectfully suggest that this committee learn from Dr. Kissinger his role in deciding on our public silence toward Chile, his attitude toward the military takeover there, and his thinking about future U.S. policy toward Chile.

I do not need to point out to members of this Committee that the United States today is in a crisis of government. We must also acknowledge that we are in a moral crisis. Is the work of the U.S. Government to be carried on in secrecy and by illegal and unconstitutional means? Or is it to be a healthy government, an open one, in which our Representatives and citizens can effectively debate the great issues of the day? Are we to have government leaders who do not lie to us? Who do not place us under surveillance? Or tap our telephones? Are our civil rights and liberties to have meaning?